

## **Lt. Governor John Garamendi's Statement on the Adoption of Plan to Cut Green House Gas Emissions in California**

SACRAMENTO – Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi today issued the following statement on the California Air Resources Board adoption of the nation's most comprehensive plan to fight global warming:.

"This is a milestone moment in California's big picture plan to take on global warming," Lieutenant John Garamendi said. "The state is well positioned with world class universities, abundant talent and entrepreneurial green technology to become a hub for innovation in creating jobs in the new green economy. As we make the transition to sustainable technologies we must address the challenge of developing and training a highly skilled workforce. Just like Silicon Valley powered our economy for the past twenty years, the low carbon technologies being invented and manufactured in California will power it for the next fifty years."

### Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi's Past Environment Record:

As chairman, Garamendi led the State Lands Commission to reject the proposed Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal off the Oxnard/Malibu coast, highlighting the plan's deficiencies in protecting the environmental health of the communities, the ocean and coastline.

As a member of the Ocean Protection Council, Garamendi developed a plan & championed legislation (Pacific Protection Initiative; 5 marine debris bills to reduce ocean pollution) to greatly decrease pollution of California beaches from plastic refuse, reducing the danger to California's beaches and marine life.

As Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Garamendi oversaw the Department's eight bureaus and helped develop national global warming policy with Vice President Al Gore and Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. He also was the key negotiator for water disputes throughout California and brought the Riverside Habitat Conservation Plan to successful implementation, which protected 66,000 acres of rare habitat. It is a national model.

As a California legislator, Garamendi authored the Tahoe Bond Act (1982), allowing the State to acquire and preserve private land in the Tahoe Basin. Since then, he has continued to help lead the state's efforts to protect the quality and clarity of Lake Tahoe's water, shore zone, natural habitat, and regional development activities.

Garamendi's 32 years of public service and environmental leadership was recently recognized by leading California coastal advocates:

Environmental Defense Center (Environmental Hero Award, June 2008)  
San Diego Coast Keeper (2007 Coastal Champion Award, November 2007)